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Merry Maple Leaves

Or

A Summer in the Country

1. Bit and human, Chemical...

Explain proc

MERRY MAPLE LEAVES

OR A

SUMMER IN THE COUNTRY

By ABNER PERK

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E. P. DUTTON AND COMPANY
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1872

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INVOCATION OF THE MUSES.

"Oft have the laws of each poetic strain
The critic-verse employed; yet still unsung
Lay this prime subject. These flattering scenes
To this neglected labour, court my song."

Akenside.

GRAHAM COLLEGE

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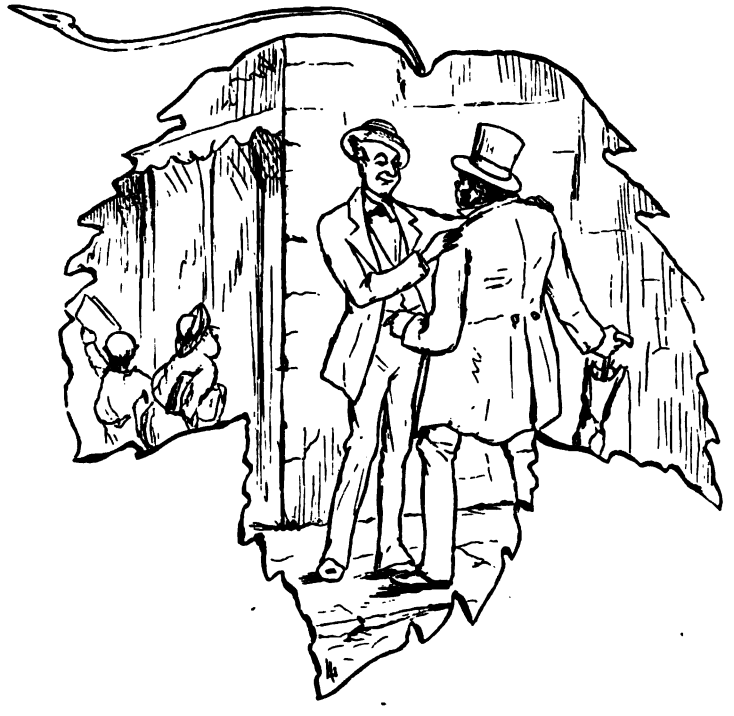
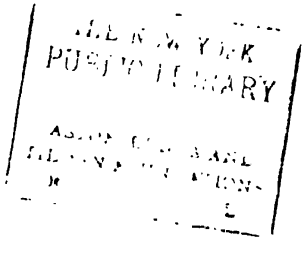


"HAPPY THOUGHT."

Mr. G. Adolphus Feakins and his friend Solomon Dodd, Esq., have a *happy thought*, "To take a furnished house in the country for the season, at a low rent, and escape the discomforts and extortions of Long Branch and Saratoga."

"'Tis distance lends enchantment to the view,
And robes the mountain in its azure hue."

Pleasures of Hope.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SOBER SECOND THOUGHT.

Their wives of course take a different view of the subject, but agree to go, to please their lords.

"Ah, gentle dames! it gars me greet,
To think how monie counsels sweet,
How monie lengthened, sage advices,
The husband frae the wife despises."

Tam O'Shanter.

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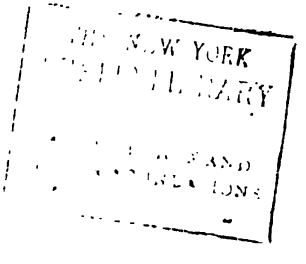
DIES IRÆ, DIES ILLA.

Getting ready to go. All rooms above second story barricaded for three weeks before departure.

Valuable assistance from husband and children.

"Some things are of that nature, as to make
One's fancy chuckle, while his heart doth ache."

Bunyan.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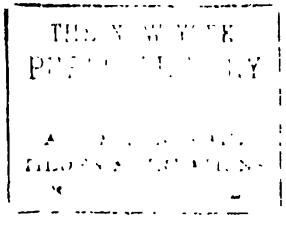
SIC TRANSIT.

They go to Maple Valley, by the famous but worn-out plank-road, which they prefer to the railroad.

"Let the steampot hiss till it 's hot,
Give me the speed of the Tantivy trot."

School Days at Rugby.

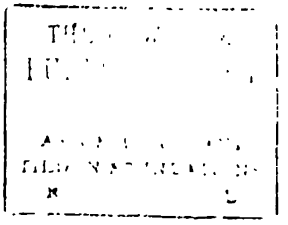


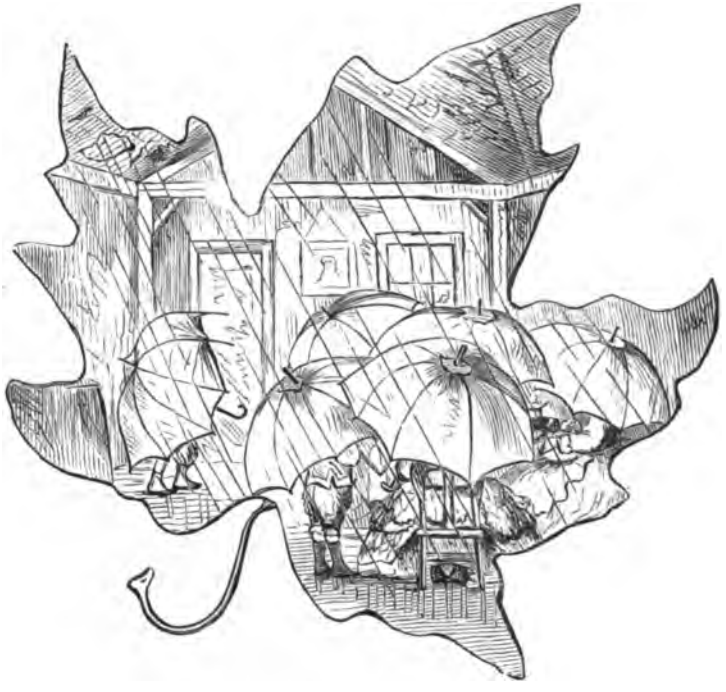
IO TRIUMPHE!

All the frogs of the neighborhood greet their arrival, and the insect tribes make a bee-line for the furnished house.

"Nor rural sights alone, but rural sounds,
Exhilarate the spirit, and restore
The tone of languid nature."

Cowper.





CŒLUM, NON ANIMUM MUTANT.

Owing to a defect in the roof of the furnished house, they unexpectedly find themselves at a "Watering Place," for the first three weeks after their arrival.

"Thus happiness depends, as Nature shows,
Less on exterior things than most suppose."

Cowper.

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MENS SIBI CONSCIA RECTI.

The gentlemen are obliged to go to the city for a few weeks "on business."

What they did in New York, while their wives were in Maple Valley.

"Men who their duties know;
But know their rights, and knowing dare maintain."

Sir William Jones.

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SOLITUDE SWEETENED.

What their wives did in Maple Valley, while the husbands were in the city.

"When musing on companions gone,
We doubly feel ourselves alone."

Walter Scott.

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LOVE'S SWEET RETURN.

They meet in Maple Valley after their painful separation.

"Two lovely berries moulded on one stem."

Midsummer Night's Dream.

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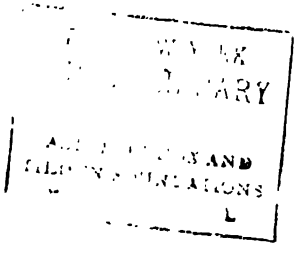
LOVE'S LABOR LOST.

They get over their meeting bravely, and fall back into the old way.

"Alas! how light a cause may move
Dissension between hearts that love!
Like ships that have gone down at sea,
When heaven was all tranquillity."

Moore.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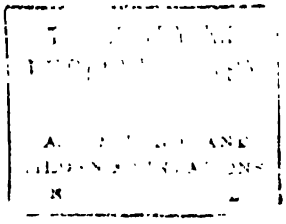
OTIUM CUM DIG.

Mr. Dodd retires to the garden for a quiet hour. His thoughtful spouse follows him to say, that if he wants potatoes for dinner, he must dig them.

"He came into the country to get rid of household cares."

"These are the times that try men's souls."

Thomas Paine.



FIAT JUSTITIA, RUAT CŒLUM.

Maggie Ransom, forgetting that city children have rights which country children ought to respect, strikes Jamie Feakins.

"A love that took an early root,
And had an early doom."

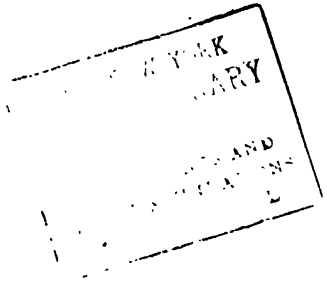
Hervey.

OMINOUS MUTTERINGS.

It is announced by the amiable domestic, that the bucket has fallen down the well, and that green wood won't kindle the fire.

"Thus woe succeeds a woe, as wave a wave."

Herrick.

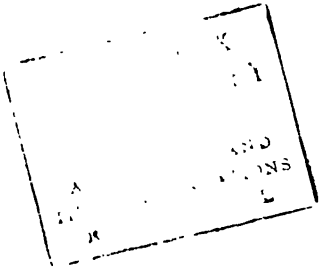


CAVE CANEM.

Neddie, the beloved of his mother, is bitten by a neighbor's dog.

"Woes cluster; rare are solitary woes;
They love a train; they tread each other's [toes]."

Young.

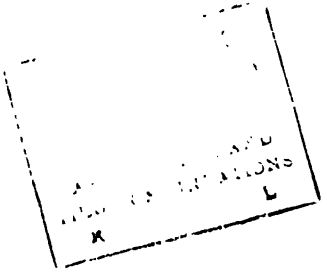


ERIN GO BRAGH.

Hop-picking time having come, and the cook having announced her intention of leaving, the agonized family in vain entreat her not to go.

"He is a fool, who thinks by force or skill
To turn the current of a woman's will."

Sir Samuel Tuke.

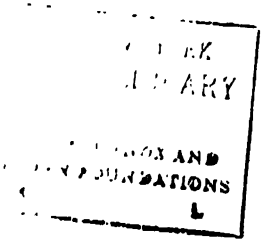


EXEUNT OMNES.

They all conclude to go home.

"To combat may be glorious, and success
Perhaps may crown us; but to fly is safe."

Cowper's Task.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A NEW DEAL.

They are met on the road and turned back by a few friends and relatives coming to spend a few days, and who stay the rest of the summer.

"Gorgons, and Hydras, and Chimæras dire!"

Milton.

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INCONSOLABLE.

They are invited to a party at Sharon Springs. Cousin Mary Ann, from Billerica, Mass., is in distress, because she has no "tulle" dress to wear.

"Be plain in dress, and sober in your diet;
In short, my deary! kiss me and be quiet."

Lady Montagu.

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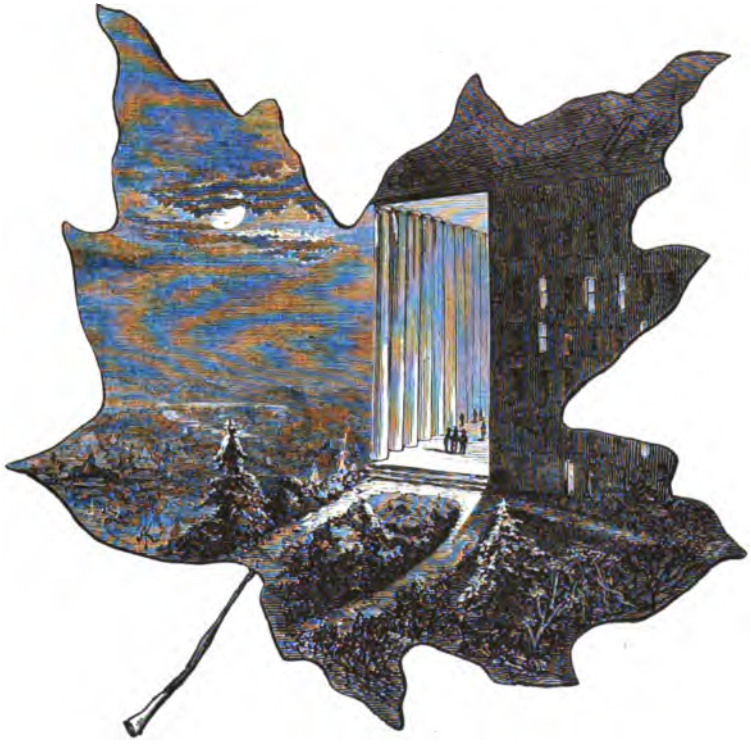
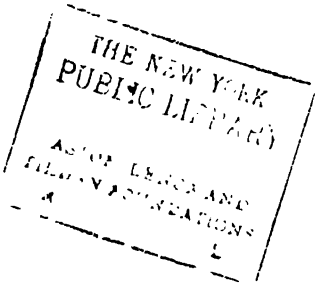


THE PAVILION AT SHARON.

"Whoe'er has travelled life's dull round,
Where'er his stages may have been,
May sigh to think he still has found
The warmest welcome at an inn."

Shenstone.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EXTREMES MEET.

The gentlemen make their toilet, on their arrival at the "Pavilion."

"Once more unto the breach, dear friends!
There's nothing so becomes a man
As when he serves his noblest ends."

Shaks. (*improved*).

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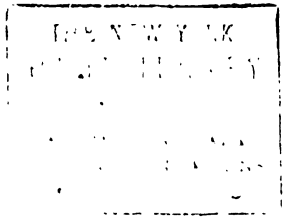
THE LIGHT FANTASTIC.

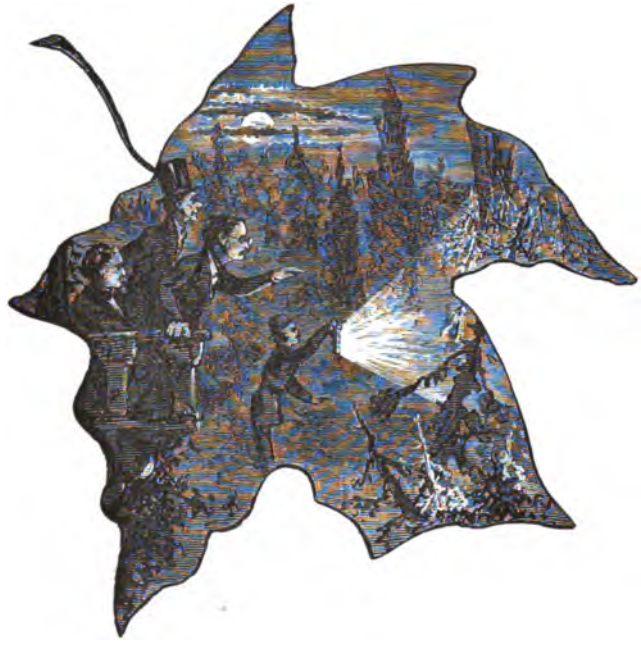
HOW THEY DANCED AT SHARON.

Cousin Mary Ann is introduced to Count Bigsnobski.

"A sweet disorder in the dress
Kindles in clothes a wantonness;
A winning wave deserving note,
In the tempestuous petticoat —
Doth more bewitch me, than when art
Is too precise in every part."

Delight in Disorder, Herrick.



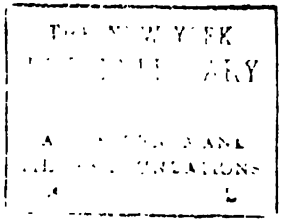


MEHR LICHT.

They are shown the magnificent panorama of the Mohawk Valley, at midnight."

"Yet from those flames no light,
But rather darkness visible."

Paradise Lost.



THE WITCHING HOUR.

The ladies talk over the party, after their return at midnight. They are rather hard on the Count.

"Be kind to my remains; and O defend,
Against your judgment, your departed friend."

Dryden.

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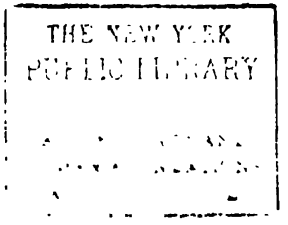
DAWN.

The gentlemen prowl about the village after the party, and discover signs of civilization among the rustics which astonish them.

"Kings may be blest, but Tam was glorious,
O'er all the ills o' life victorious."

Burns.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REMORSE.

They visit the Sulphur Spring the next morning, in order to recover from the last night's dissipation.

"Sooth, the drinking should be ampler
When the drink is so divine."

Mrs. Browning.

ECHO BAY.

Cousin Mary Ann and the Count ride over to Echo Bay, Otsego Lake.

It is said that the echo finished the Count; he never told his love.

"So have I heard on Afric's burning shore,
A hungry lion give a grievous roar;
Another lion gave a grievous roar,
And the first lion thought the last a bore."

Bombastes Furioso.

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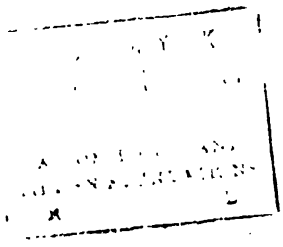
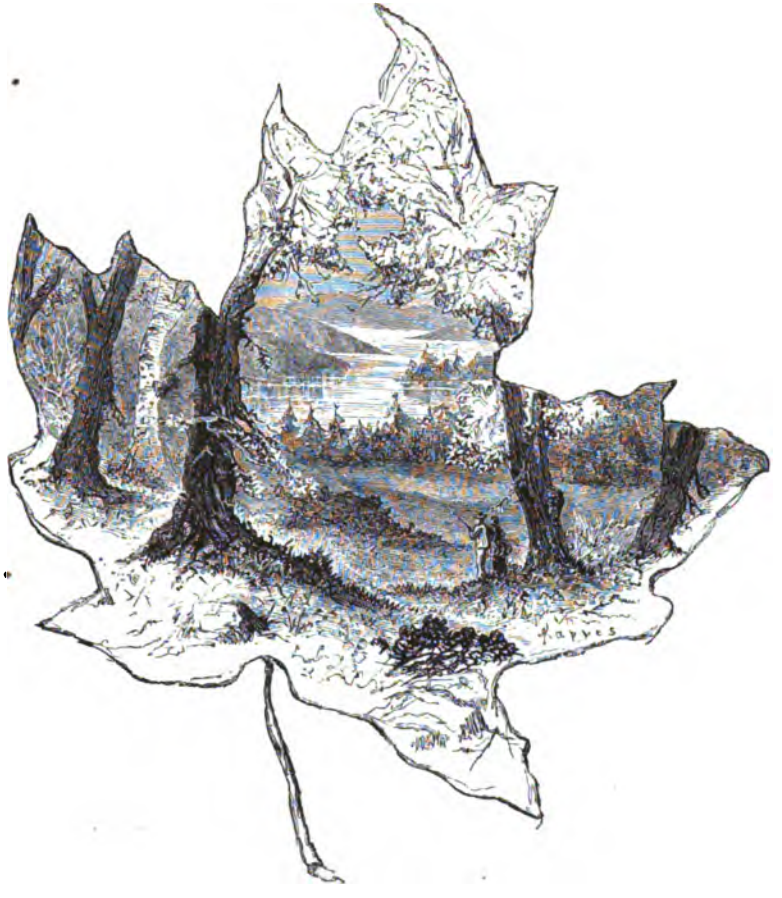


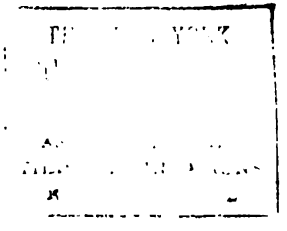


PINE COBBLE.

OTSEGO LAKE IN THE DISTANCE.

"Fountain heads and pathless groves,
Places which pale passion loves."

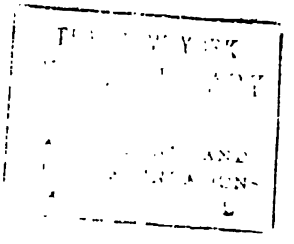
Fletcher.



A MARE'S NEST.

Mr. Feakins decides to hire a horse by the week, and has his choice of the whole stable.

"Accommodated; that is, when a man is, as they say, accommodated; or when a man is — being — whereby he may be thought to be accommodated; which is an excellent thing." — *King Henry IV.*

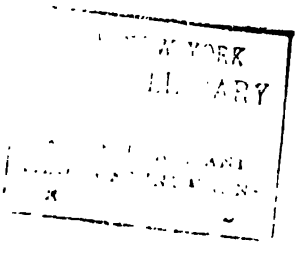


THE COMPLETE ANGLER.

Some rustics tell them of a fine trout brook six miles off; they get up at 4 A. M. and go, only to return in disgust.

"Angling is somewhat like poetry, men are to be born so."

Isaak Walton.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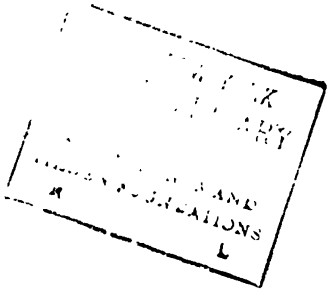
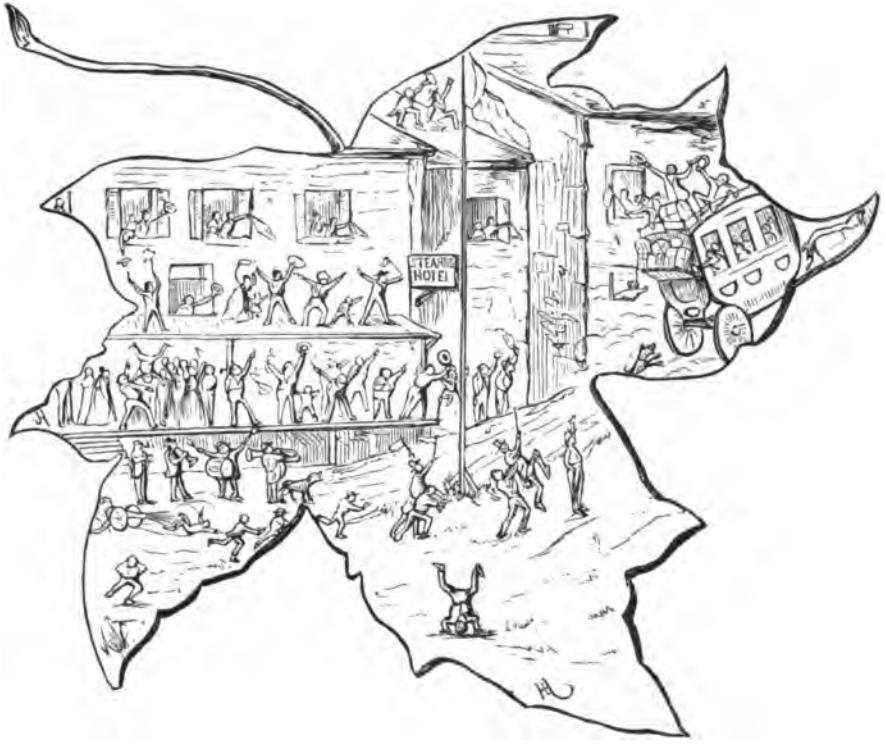
TRAP ROCK.

The philosopher and his friend come across some ancient inscriptions, and having nothing else to do, spend the morning trying to decipher them.

"And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything."

As You Like It.



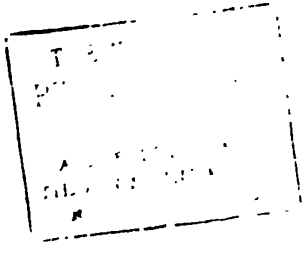


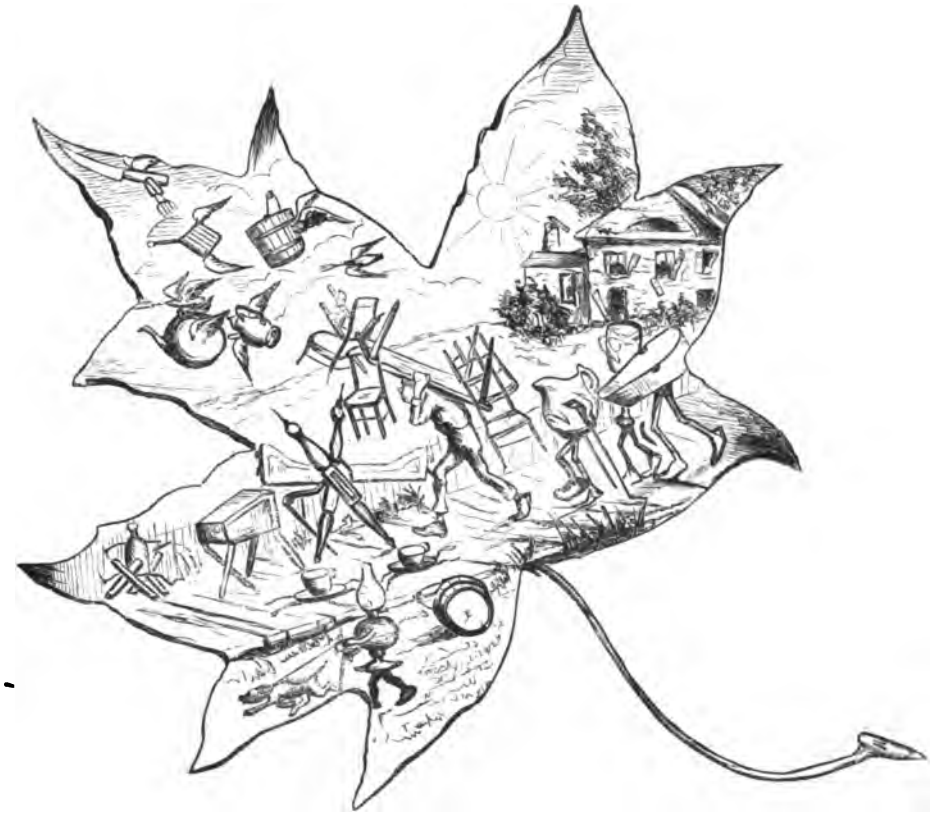
TWICE GLAD.

Joy of Maple Valley over their departure.

"True friendship's laws are by this rule exprest,
Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest."

Pope's Odyssey.



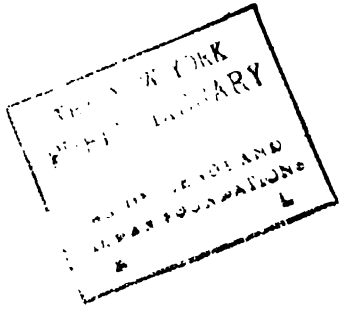


SUNDERED TIES.

Articles borrowed or hired, return to their owners. The kerosene lamp "goes it blind."

"This house is to be let for life or years;
Her rent is sorrow, and her income tears.
She must be dearly let or let alone."

Francis Quarles.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RETROSPECTION.

After paying all charges, and the stage-fare to Palatine Bridge, they were last seen, scantily clad, walking mournfully along the tow-path of the Mohawk Valley Canal, towards the rising sun.

"So comes a reckoning when the banquet's o'er,
The dreadful reckoning, and men smile no more."

John Gay.

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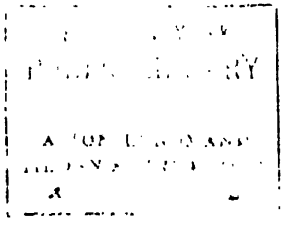
"Be it ever so humble,
There's no place like home."

J. Howard Payne.



THE END